

Delaware Human Trafficking Interagency Coordinating Council

HTICC Minutes

June 26, 2018, 10:00-12:00 p.m.

Chapel, Herman Holloway Campus

New Castle, DE

Members Present: Leslie Brower, Carl Danberg, Jan Jurden, Abby Layton, Lisa Minutola, Trenee Parker, Melissa Pennachi, Debra Reed

Introduced: Emily Gabos, Superior Court Summer Intern

Absent: Chris Kervick, Diane Glenn, Julie Petroff, Annamarie McDermott, Randall Hughes

Agenda Item	Discussion	Responsible Part(ies)	Action-Target Date
Meeting Agenda Approval	Quorum established at 10:15. Judge Danberg moved to approve the agenda, second by Trenee Parker, motion passed.	-	-
Review and Approve of May 31, 2018 Meeting Minutes	Judge Danberg moved to approve minutes from May 31 st meeting, second by Abby Layton, 7 approved, 1 abstention, passed.	-	-
Review of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Requirements Oliver Cleary, Deputy Attorney General	DAG Edward Black briefed the members regarding pertinent open meeting provisions of the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"). He advised the Council to think in terms of preventing FOIA violations by complying with legal requirements, both in full Council meetings and by committees; he offered the assistance of DAG Oliver Cleary and himself if further FOIA questions arise.	-	-
Review of Draft HTICC Bylaws (Vote scheduled) Judge Carl Danberg, Chair, Bylaws Committee	Judge Danberg introduced a set of bylaws for consideration by the Human Trafficking Interagency Coordinating Council (HTICC). Adoption of the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council bylaws provided the foundation, making appropriate HTICC specific modifications throughout. Judge Danberg accepted several edits and moved to accept the bylaws as edited. Motion was second by Abby Layton and approved without dissent. Judge Danberg will make those changes and circulate a final version.	Judge Danberg	Edit by 7/13/18

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<p>“The Grid:” Updates, Questions and Suggestions, Discussion Leslie Brower, Project Director, Trauma Informed Care, DHSS</p>	<p>The Chair summarized the purpose of the document for information gathering and noted that it is evolving and members are encouraged to adapt it to their particular situation as appropriate.</p> <p>Lisa Minutola: described the role of the Office of Defense Services, more likely to see traffickers than victims, who tend to be juveniles; mentioned Amelia Robinson from the University of Maryland who is with the Office for Child Sex Trafficking; noted bench cards in use by Commissioner Loretta Young; emphasized the importance of building awareness among all parties; noted that she has not seen any use of expungement, vacatur or dismissals; Kelly Head was introduced as Fellow at CLASI working on these issues.</p> <p>Debra Reed: described the number of police departments in Delaware, with only six having victim advocate functions; as Delaware State Police victim advocate her office serves other jurisdictions as well; victim advocates offer crisis intervention, information and referral to all crime victims, not just HT victims; victim advocates are notified automatically through online reporting when law enforcement identifies a victim needing services; advocates work closely with investigators when HT is suspected; introduced Lt. Danny Meadows who is taking the lead for HT cases at DSP; also introduced Elisa Lehman, FBI victim services.</p> <p>Melissa Pennachi: At the Newark PD she sees only adult victims, not juveniles; works closely with the street crimes unit to follow up on red flags with suspected HT situations.</p> <p>Judge Danberg: stated that he hopes the Council assists with awareness of red flags among court personnel; noted that not one HT case has been brought in his five years on the bench, although there were red flags in a handful of cases; he noted the familiar barriers to victim self-disclosure and the challenges faced in bringing forth HT issues in court proceedings; he noted that no data is collected specifically on HT and that he is not aware of any HT training or targeted interagency coordination in the Court of Common Pleas; he anticipates that suggestions to the Council will be forthcoming.</p>	<p>ALL</p>	<p>-</p>
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	<p>Abby Layton: stated that the Attorney General's Family Division is focused on meeting the needs of victims; that there has been internal training in each of the Division's disciplines; elements of a strategic plan exist for the investigative functions; all five units in the Division see HT victims but the cases straddle the several units so coordination re: prosecution is essential; one focus is to work with law enforcement to identify what they need in order to be effective in this area, ensure ongoing collaboration, data collection; the Division responds to requests for presentations by the public.</p> <p>Trenee Parker: recent statutory changes require HT cases to be considered abuse and neglect which has entailed making changes in Departmental operations; they have received HT reports on their abuse and neglect hotline—all sexual in nature, none labor; the Department has many data collection and reporting requirements, both state and federal; aggregate reports from their weekly data summary will be available to the Council; public awareness and professional training has been incorporated into ongoing staff training, as well as mandated annual training for schools; there is a need for victim services in Delaware, including residential treatment for children in DFS (Division of Family Services) custody, and referral sources for those not in DFS custody; the Youth Rehabilitation Service (YRS) and Prevention and Behavioral Health Divisions have been implementing efforts to identify red flags for children and youth in their care; the Department collaborates routinely with a large group of other entities including the Children's Advocacy Center, the FBI, law enforcement and other administration officials; reports re runaways are routinely sent to the Center for Missing and Exploited Children; social works must balance gathering information gathering from victims with avoiding the risk of jeopardizing any possible prosecution.</p> <p>Judge Jurden: Echoed Judge Danberg re challenges to HT prosecution; notes that Superior Court has no HT strategic plan; neither Superior Court nor DelJIS has data on the prevalence of HT; she has reached out to Kate Brookins to see if there is any such data from the VASE grant; court personnel could benefit from awareness training and technical assistance re HT cases, including wider use of bench cards; noted that help for victims tends to be incarceration at BWCI or Vaughan which serves to further traumatize victims; there is a significant need for alternative service settings and better understanding of what service gaps exist; Superior Court works well with Court of Common Pleas and Justice of the Peace courts and prosecutors, as well as treatment programs.</p>		
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Public Comment	<p>Lt. Danny Meadows, Delaware State Police: thanked the Council for its work and summarized recent DSP activity: coordinating HT reports through Detective Josh Rowley; sponsored training through DIAC for all law enforcement regarding red flags of trafficking; created to crisis investigators to handle these complex cases; developed a strategy for proactive initiatives, with victim services embedded; developed an outreach initiative to focus on locations where HT is most likely to take place.</p> <p>Sylvana Croope: HT lead at Department of Transportation; implementing outreach and education within DOT; USDOT approved first research project on HT which is in its first phase now.</p> <p>Barbara Allsop: Aglow International in Dover; focused on public awareness as well as housing and rehabilitation in the Dover area.</p> <p>Sandra Bucay: noted that the Council work would benefit from participation by peers.</p>		
Next Meeting	To be determined via electronic poll of member availability.	ALL	ASAP
Adjourn	Motion was made to adjourn, seconded and carried unanimously at 11:50 a.m.	-	-